

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-03 SAM-01 SP-02 SSO-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 PRS-01 CIAE-00 L-01

DODE-00 PM-03 ACDA-10 /058 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5047

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 29255

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, FR, CG, UR

SUBJECT: ANGOLA RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 265503

1. QUAI ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA CHAUVET TOLD US NOVEMBER 10 THAT FRANCE WILL NOT RECOGNIZE THE MPLA OR ANYONE ELSE AS THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE EC NINE HAVE DECIDED AGAINST A JOINT DECLARATION NOVEMBER 11 AND THE FRENCH HOPE TO AVOID MAKING ANY UNILATERAL STATEMENT. IF PRESSED, CHAUVET SAID, THE GOF MIGHT ISSUE AN ANODINE DECLARATION RECOGNIZING A STATE OF ANGOLA BUT ALSO INDICATING THAT THERE IS NO GOVERNMENT EXERCISING CONTROL OVER THAT STATE. THE FRENCH VICE CONSUL IN LUANDA HAS NOT BEEN  
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SENT AN INVITATION TO INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES BY THE

MPLA AND IS BEING INSTRUCTED TO DECLINE ON GROUNDS OF LATENESS IF ONE IS RECEIVED.

2. THE FRENCH WOULD ABSTAIN IN ANY SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE ON AN MPLA GOVERNMENT APPLICATION FOR UN MEMBERSHIP. CHAUVET SAW ONLY FOUR SURE VOTES FOR THE MPLA IN THE SC: USSR, BYELRUSSIA, IRAQ AND TANZANIA. HE SAID MAURETANIA MIGHT ALSO VOTE FOR THE MPLA BUT THAT MOKTAR OULD DADDAH'S HARSH CRITICISM OF SOVIET INTERFERENCE IN ANGOLA MADE TO QUAI DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA GEORGY NOVEMBER 7 MAKES THE MAURETANIAN POSITION UNCERTAIN IN FRENCH EYES.

3. CHAUVET THOUGHT THE FOLLOWING AFRICAN COUNTRIES WOULD RECOGNIZE AN MPLA GOVERNMENT AS SOON AS IT IS PROCLAIMED: MADAGASCAR, TANZANIA, SOMALIA, ALGERIA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, CONGO AND MALI; DAHOMEY MIGHT ALSO DO SO. AN FNLA/UNITA GOVERNMENT WOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY ONLY ZAIRE AND GABON, ALTHOUGH ZAMBIA MIGHT POSSIBLY DO THE SAME. CHAUVET SAID THE MODERATE FRANCOPHONES LIKE SENEGAL, IVORY COAST AND TOGO WILL RECOGNIZE NEITHER ONE NOR THE OTHER.

4. CHAUVET NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS SEEM TO BE OVERPLAYING THEIR HAND IN ANGOLA. IN ADDITION TO MOKTAR'S REACTION, HE MENTIONED IDI AMIN'S THREATS AND THE DISARRAY WITHIN THE OAU CAUSED LARGELY BY SOVIET AGGRESSIVENESS. SOVIET ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ANGOLA THROUGH THE CONGO ARE VERY VISIBLE, HE CONTINUED, WHILE THOSE REACHING ANGOLA FROM THE WEST THROUGH ZAIRE ARE MORE DISCREET. IN THE FACE OF ALL THIS, THE QUAI IS WONDERING WHETHER THE SOVIETS WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE THE RISK OF RUPTURE IN RELATIONS WITH THE AFRICANS OR WILL FEEL IMPELLED TO MODERATE THEIR POSITION.

5. THE QUAI ESTIMATES THAT THE MPLA NOW CONTROLS LESS THAN A THIRD OF THE TERRITORY AND POPULATION OF ANGOLA. GIVEN LUANDA'S PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE, NETO WILL PUT ALL HIS EFFORT INTO HOLDING IT AND THE FNLA/UNITA ARE NOT LIKELY SOON TO ACHIEVE VICTORY  
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THERE' CHAUVET SAID.

6. AS FOR CABINDA, THE FRENCH EXPECT ZAIRE TO INVAD (SUCCESSFULLY) AT ANY MOMENT. CHAUVET PREDICTED THAT THE CURRENT AFRICAN ANGER ABOUT SOVIET INTERFERENCE IN ANGOLA WILL SHORTLY BE REDIRECTED AGAINST ZAIRE IF MOBUTU BRAZENLY ANNEXES CABINDA.  
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